

**AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION:**

Please replace the paragraph beginning on p.1 at ln.4 with the following amended paragraph:

This application is related to (1) "SYSTEM FOR PERFORMING CARRIER PHASE TRACKING OF CHANNEL SYMBOLS USING RELIABILITY METRICS IN THE TRACKING LOOP," U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/715,877~~Not Yet Assigned, Howrey Dkt. No. 01827.0042.00US00, Conexant Dkt. No. 00CXT0361D~~, filed November 17, 2000 and ~~owned in common by the assignee hereof~~; and (2) "RATE N/N SYSTEMATIC, RECURSIVE CONVOLUTIONAL ENCODER AND CORRESPONDING DECODER," U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/602,690, filed June 23, 2000, ~~Howrey Dkt. No. 01827.0037.00US00, Conexant Dkt. No. 00CXT0357D~~, both of which are owned in common by the assignee hereof, and both of which are hereby fully incorporated by reference herein as though set forth in full.